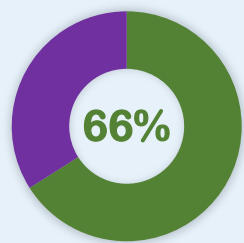


Over 1,200 died by suicide in 2022

Over **38,000** 988/National Suicide Prevention Lifeline calls, texts, and chats (2022)

Lethal Means



Of suicides involved firearms
(Followed by asphyxiation, poisoning, and other)

Firearms are the most lethal means; 90% of those who use a firearm die



67%

Both males and females use firearms more than any other method



43%



Firearm use increases with age



Asphyxiation decreases with age

Most firearm deaths are suicides
Followed by homicides and accidents (2%)

747 suicides
(54%)

609 homicides
(44%)

Suicide in Missouri: Where We Stand

Sources: Center for Disease Control and Prevention (2021); Conner, Azrael, Miller (2019); Darron (2021); Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (2022); Missouri Institute of Mental Health – University of Missouri St. Louis (2022); University of Missouri – Partners in Prevention (2020, 2022, 2023); U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (2020); Vibrant (2022).



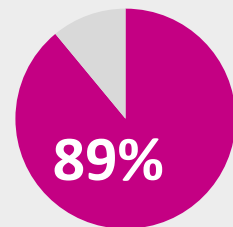
highest suicide rate in the nation (2021)

Demographics

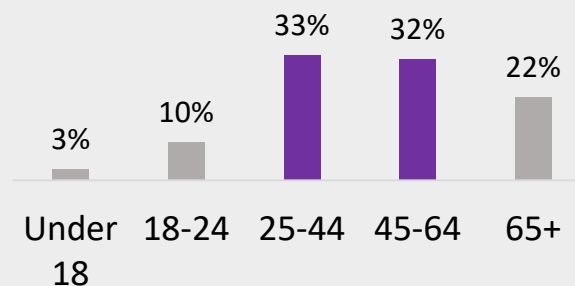


Male suicides are roughly **4x** higher than female suicides

Most suicides are among **White** Missourians



The majority of suicides are between ages **25-64**



Rural suicide rates are **higher** than urban



Highest numbers in **St. Louis Metro** and **Kansas City**

Youth Suicidal Ideation

25% of college students had serious thoughts of suicide in the past year
13% of high school students
11% of middle school students



51% of college students were **“Very Likely”** to refer someone who says they are thinking about suicide to a local resource

However...



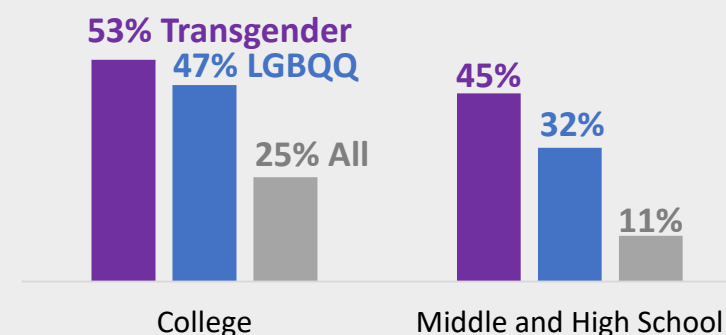
only 21% of college students were **“Very Likely”** to bring up the topic of suicide with someone they think is at risk

Top 3 Barriers to Seeking Help

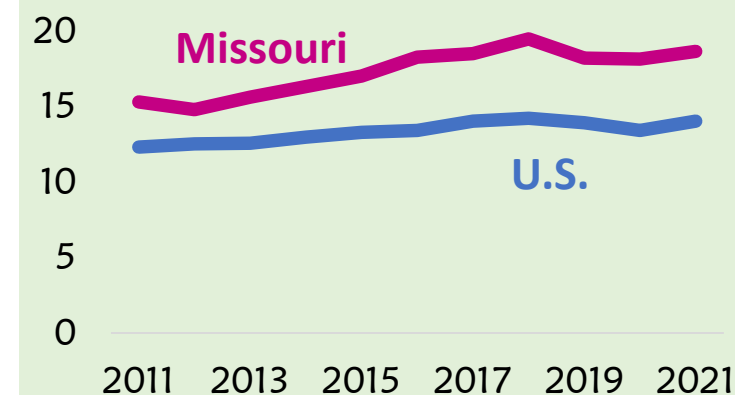
Among suicidal college students

- × “I do not think I need any assistance” (42%)
- × “I feel shame” (41%)
- × “I am afraid that people will judge me” (35%)

High percentage of sexual and gender minority youth seriously considered suicide last year



Missouri suicide rates are consistently higher than those in the United States



2nd

leading cause of death for Missourians aged **18-34**

3rd

leading cause of death for Missourians aged **10-17**

Veterans



Missouri veteran suicide rates are slightly more than **two times higher** than US general population



Highest suicide rates were among **young veterans**



15% of all suicides in 2020 were **veteran suicides**